# THE EXAMINER.

No. 11. SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 1808.

## THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few.
SWIFT.

### No. 11.

### PEACE OR WAR.

The question of peace or war renders the politician more philosophically thoughtful about the little views of his fellow-creatures, than almost any other subject of policy. There can be no human being more truly detestable than he who, on such a question, hesitates to give his real opinion, and, for the sake of obliging a Minister or keeping a place, will set aside the happiness of a whole quarter of the globe. A disinterested man could never prefer war to peace on it's own account, any more than he could wish to see his friend under a surgical operation rather than in perfect health. Those who live by the disorders of the state have as little right to be heard in questions about peace and war, as a mere apothecary, who lives upon head-aches and hysterics, has to be the physician in a fanciful family. In order therefore that such men might injure neither their own consciences nor the blessings of their fellow-creatures, how glorious for human nature would it be, could we possess a set of statesmen, abstracted as it were from the executive power and from the profits and petty views of *official* statesmen; could we possess, in short, a real jury of humane, enlightened, unpensioned, and unofficed men, to whom the great legislative trials between right and wrong might be entirely submitted. I hope this is not a mere Utopian fancy in a country of freemen and philosophers. The great questions between Ministers and Oppositions, or between nations themselves, are by no means so intricate as some affected politicians would insinuate. Good common sense, which is the root of the most uncommon wisdom, is the portion of many a good common man; and as long therefore as politics are engrafted on this sense, as they should always be, men of good natural understanding and disinterested views, are in reality much better judges of the subject than the greatest *party*-men with the greatest talents. The quarrels of children are an epitome of the quarrels of men, and the disputes of individual men are an epitome of national wars. You have only to personify two contending nations by those imaginary beings, whom the Eastern writers have represented as their presiding guardians, and you simplify the dispute at once. The multitude, though it may take it's part in the contest, does not create the battle between two persons in the street; it is the battle which creates the multitude.

Mr. WHITBREAD, ever keeping in view this simplicity of consideration and advancing no proposition that shall not be clear to every man of good common sense, has wished that this country would make proposals of peace to France even if it were for the mere purpose of shewing that we were not averse to pacification. He represents with great truth, that the enemy steals the good opinion of Europe by a frequent shew of pacific sentiments; and it is evident that if we have justice on our side, we should contrive for the sake of justice that it should be apparent to every body. I am afraid that the disdain which the Ministry express for this shew of conciliation proves that they cannot say any thing conciliatory without contradicting the former good policy of their views. The war was originally undertaken to diminish the power of France, and more immediately, in subsequent times, to diminish the European influence of NAPOLEON; for it is a fact somewhat humiliating to the genius of this country, that the war with France has almost literally become a personal contest with the FRENCH EMPEROR. We appear to make decrees for the sole purpose of shewing our contempt for his, and our most celebrated war statesmen have expressed a personal contempt for the man who has overthrown all their plans. We should look a little at home as well as abroad, for as it is useless to interfere in the continental affairs, so it is foolish to affect a horror at the usurping violence of NAPOLEON. Why should we throw in the way of pacification those very reproaches which he may retort upon us. If we start up for the rights of mankind and exclaim, "Here is a man who usurps the whole Continent!" let us recollect that an abuse of power is the same in Asia as in Europe, and that an East Indian would have much greater reason to cry out against the usurpations of England. NAPOLEON has at least the excuse of a real quarrel between France and the rest of Europe; but how was it that we took possession of an immense country on the other side of the globe, where the people had scarcely heard of us? In fact, as long as an Englishman approves our East Indian Government and its monstrous excesses of ambition, he should not dare to say a single word against the FRENCH EMPEROR. The aggrandizement of NAPOLEON therefore, however it may be a cause of fear on our part, is no just cause of complaint, and though we may

reasonably try to withstand this aggrandizement, yet I am sure the methods by which we have hitherto exercised our resistance, exhibit no longer any reasonableness or any hope. Our subsidies and continental alliances have only encreased the power of France, and it seems to me as ridiculous to attempt the diminution of that power by additional subsidies, as it would be to wash away a field by sending through it in a circular way a number of fertilizing streams. How long shall we be in discovering that the God of Riches is not the God of War? When Crœsus ostentatiously shewed his treasures to Solon, the philosopher replied, "Sir, if there comes another who has better iron than you, he will be master of all this gold."

If the war therefore is waged for the sake of the Continent, an immediate peace would be the best friendship we could display towards our allies. Our mass of alliances has been cut away, till there remains nothing of them but a petty corner with a base upon which it can scarcely stand. Yet a fifth confederacy is hinted, and this confederacy is to consist of an union of Prussia and Sweden, a French rebellion, and a Spanish revolt! The idea is really so contemptible, that it has not the merit of provoking one's laughter. It is a pathetic absurdity: it makes us feel as we do at the busy impotence of a madman, who is full of hope himself, while he is utterly hopeless to others. The union of Prussia with Sweden is the marriage of a phantom with a living person. How can Prussia unite it's powers, when it has no powers to unite? If such a proposal were made to that unfortunate country, it would be as hard-hearted a compliment as to ask a sick man in the last stage of a consumption to get up and hunt the wild boar. The Spanish revolt, I grant, is more in the true style of confederacy, for it would be of solid benefit to our enemies. We raise a tumult in a sickly and dissipated house, and then the healthy plunderer next door has the best of excuses and opportunities to ruin the family. I must say one thing for the coalitions of England, and that is, that she behaves with an unbounded and indefatigable generosity to her antagonists. As to a rebellion in France, against whom are the French to rebel? Against their own monarch or their own sunshine? It is the same thing. A child would no more quarrel with you for giving it fine clothes, than the French would quarrel with the master who gives them lustre and aggrandizement. Are we to be taught the Gallic character after all their ragged admiration of their despotic kings, and particularly after the late revolution? The destiny of a Frenchman, in relation to government, is the destiny of a domestic singing-bird: he is made for song and for shew and [illegible] gilt cage.

[illegible] great objections to peace in the minds of reasonable men, is the probable superior increase of France in maritime power. But it should be observed, that in the time of war France can put forth all her best strength, which is military, and England, paradoxical as it may appear, cannot put forth all her best strength, because a great part of her navy is employed in protecting the exuberance of her commerce. Now if France increases her navy in time of peace, she must increase it wonderfully before she can attempt to cope with our increasing navy, which is already so formidable; and at any rate so great an increase would never happen during the life of Napoleon. They who suppose that the French Emperor will raise all his vassals on the coasts of Europe to maritime power, appear to me to mistake his policy exceedingly. The figure of Charlemagne, which he wears on the top of his sceptre, will give him a better lesson. When the petty snow-ball on a Swiss glacier is increased beyond it's gravitation, it becomes an awful mass that by it's sudden disparture shakes the whole mountain and overwhelms every thing in it's progress. There never was a nation in the world which, in the midst of other great nations, was at once the greatest at sea and the greatest by land. The sources, the genius, and the operations of the two powers are mutual interruptions to their equal strength, and when the natural situation of the country is evidently to the advantage of one of them, that one will certainly predominate. If what is past in history can give us an insight in what is to come, it appears to me that in time of peace Napoleon may still pursue his ambitious ends, but in a very different way: if he is wise, he will become a patron of the arts, which can alone send down his glories to posterity, and he will employ his talents in strengthening his country, that it may still be great when he is no longer living.

In the present state of things therefore I can see but two difficulties in the way of immediate and entire peace. In the first place, we ought never to make a treaty with Napoleon without a perfect knowledge of his immediate views; and secondly, we never *can* make peace with him unless we acknowledge his right to those countries of which he has possessed himself in a manner rather more warrantable than our seizures in the East. Now with the talents and temper of the present Ministry, these requisites to pacification, I am afraid, will not be easily obtained. Even if they should chance to be persuaded of the reasonableness of peace, this very persuasion would most probably strengthen their dislike of acknowledgment. Obstinacy is often strengthened by that which renders it ridiculous, for it then takes a character of revenge as well as folly. Many a warlike Ministry has been like a boy, who longs to make it up, but rejects the offered hand with a pettishness proportioned to his former inveteracy. Poor human nature!

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# FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

## FRANCE.

PARIS, FEB. 16.—On the 12th inst. the Danish East India ship the Spitzburg arrived at Paimboeuf. On the 29th of January she fell in with a French squadron of five ships of the line and some frigates, off the Cape de Verd Islands. We doubt not that this is the squadron that sailed from Rochefort under the command of Rear-Admiral Allmand. It was before reported that the Rochefort squadron had arrived at Toulon.

FEB. 18.—The *Journal of the Empire* contains the following article from Madrid, of the 1st of Feb. :—"Since the liberation of the Prince of Asturias, a commission has been named for the purpose of investigating the charges relative to the authors of the conspiracy entered into against his Majesty. This commission has now laid their report before the King; and in consequence of it, the Duke of Infantado, and certain other Lords, have been banished for a certain number of years, and a Bishop has received orders to retire to a convent assigned to him. For some days a report has prevailed at Madrid, that the Emperor of the French means to visit Portugal in the spring, and there to review his troops in person. This news is by no means certain; but though unconfirmed, it has produced the greatest sensation in Spain. On all sides the common subject of conversation is, the preparations for receiving with proper respect that extraordinary man, should he pay a visit to Lisbon."

The foreign papers contain copious details of the splendid reception which the French Ambassador, M. De Caulaincourt, received from the Russian Court. On his journey to Petersburgh from the Russian confines, he was escorted by a detachment of cossacks, and received with all civil and military honour. On his arrival at Petersburgh, on the 17th of December, he was lodged in one of the most splendid palaces of that capital, and his first audience was conducted with every circumstance of pomp and splendour.

FEB. 26.—A Senatus Consultum of the 19th of February, published by order of Government, contains the following disposition:—"Such foreigners as shall render, or have rendered, eminent services to the state, or who, endowed with particular talents, shall settle in France, and introduce there any useful invention or branch of industry, shall after a twelvemonth's residence enjoy all the rights of French citizens.

*CONSERVATIVE SENATE.*

SENATORS—I have thought proper to appoint my brother-in-law, Prince Borghese, to the place of Governor-General, erected by the Organic Senatus Consultum of the 2d of this month. My people of the departments beyond the Alps will perceive, in the creation of that place, and in the appointment of the person to whom I commit it, my anxious desire of being made acquainted with whatever can prove interesting for them, and the affectionate sentiments with which I bear constantly in mind the most distant parts of my empire. NAPOLEON.

MARCH 1.—The official journal of this day contains the following article, dated Constantinople, Jan. 28:—"Gen. Gardane, Ambassador from the Emperor Napoleon to Persia, arrived on the 8th of November, at Koi, the first town on the Persian territory. He there found every thing prepared for his reception. He boasts of the complaisance shewn to him by Prince Abbas-Mirza, the eldest son of the Persian Monarch, and the governor of this frontier town. In the same place he met the Persian Ambassador, on his way to France, whose retinue consisted of more than 100 persons, and who carries with him elegant and curious presents, to the value of several millions. Among them are swords of Thomarian and Thomas Kouli Khan. These swords are covered with precious stones, and are still in the state in which they were worn by the two conquerors to whom they belonged. These particulars have been communicated by persons belonging to the embassy, and who have seen the valuable presents."

## ITALY.

NAPLES, JAN. 28.—An action has been recently fought off this coast, between a Russian frigate and two English ships of war; after some shots having been fired on both sides, the frigate, which was ignorant of war having been declared, was obliged to surrender. It is said that another engagement has taken place near Corfu, but as yet we have received nothing certain respecting it.

FEB. 1.—Our town has been thrown into the highest state of consternation by a dreadful catastrophe. In the night between the 29th and 30th of January, a wing of the palace of M. Salicetti, Minister of War and Police, tumbled down through the explosion of a quantity of gunpowder. The room where the Minister was, has been preserved undamaged by a kind of miracle, but he was wounded while hastening to relieve his daughter, the Duchess of Lavella, who was found with her husband amidst the ruins. She is severely wounded. A servant lost his life on the occasion. Enquiries are already set on foot to discover the authors of that horrid deed. The apothecary of the late Queen, who was implicated in the last conspiracy, and received the King's pardon, has been arrested. This man had a shop near the palace of M. Salicetti, and strong suspicion is entertained of his having collected a large quantity of gunpowder in the cellars, which were separated from those of M. Salicetti merely by a partition wall. The buildings, which contained the different War-offices, have been rendered uninhabitable by the explosion.

FEB. 12.—Hostilities were resumed in Calabria in the course of last month. The English, expecting soon to be attacked in Sicily, appear to have made an effort again to remove the theatre of the war to Calabria. This effort has, however, proved very fatal to them. The following is what our *Moniteur* has already published on this subject:—In the night between the 26th and 27th of January, a corp of about 600 men, partly English and partly *banditti*, who were landed at Canatello and Villa San Giovanni, attacked a post which was merely defended by a company of voltigeurs and twenty jagers. Captain Livron, who commanded, defeated the enemy, and pursued them to the sea. Part endeavoured to regain their vessels by swimming; the remainder were made prisoners. On the 30th, four of the enemy's gun-boats and two transports were attacked at Porticello, by a company of voltigeurs of the first regiment, and some grenadiers of the 62d; our brave troops, in spite of the enemy's fire, rushed into the

sea, boarded the vessels under a shower of bullets, and made themselves masters of them. The firing having excited observation, some English ships of war put out from Messina to assist the gun-boats. A brig of 22 guns run in so close to Porticello, that she got a-ground on the coast. This vessel also fell into our hands, after a defence of two days, during which her Captain was killed and the Lieutenant wounded. On the 1st of February, our troops made themselves masters of Reggio, which the enemy had surrounded with entrenchments. The fort surrendered on the 2d. On this occasion we took 900 prisoners, and fourteen pieces of cannon.

## GERMANY.

BANKS OF THE MAINE, FEB. 19.—The Archduke Charles, if his health permit, will in the spring undertake a journey to Paris. He will be accompanied by the Archduke Joseph. According to letters from Milan, Etruria, the Mark of Ancona, and Civita Vecchia, are to be joined to the kingdom of Italy.

BANKS OF THE ELBE, FEB. 22.—The refusal of England to co-operate in restoring peace to Europe is on the eve of producing measures whose effects will soon be felt upon the Continent. Already on all sides movements are observed, which indicate the intention of taking the field, on the return of fine weather; a formidable army of French and Spaniards is assembling in Spain, which will be increased to 150,000 men; preparations are pursued with the utmost activity on the frontiers of Turkey; the Russian troops are advancing in great force on those of Sweden, and we are in momentary expectation of official intelligence of hostilities having commenced.

## PRUSSIA.

DANTZIC, FEB. 4.—In the night between the 1st and 2d of this month, a fire broke out in the tanneries of the old town, which raged with such fury that, notwithstanding all the assistance that could be given, it continued burning for twenty-four hours. In the afternoon of the 2d, another conflagration, which threatened to be still more dangerous than the former, broke out in a large magazine which had been made into a barrack, but the effectual exertions that were made to extinguish it, especially by the French troops, soon stopped the progress of the flames. The city presents a scene of desolation, more than 100 buildings are reduced to ashes. The steeple of the church of the Holy Ghost has fallen down, and many persons have lost their lives on this occasion.

## DENMARK.

COPENHAGEN, FEB. 12.—Report states that the Russian troops have entered Finland, and that the Swedes have fallen back.—They talk in Sweden of an invasion of Norway, in which country the construction of ships of war is carried on with the utmost activity.

## SPAIN.

BARCELONA, FEB. 1.—An American ship, lately arrived here from Majorca, brings intelligence that the Prince Regent of Portugal arrived in the port of Bahia in the beginning of January. Indirect intelligence has been received at Cadiz from Spanish America; it appears that they have got abundance of silver and ingots of gold, which they know not what to do with; but are in want of woollen cloths, hardware, &c.

## *STATE PAPERS.*

### CONVENTION BETWEEN HIS MAJESTY AND THE KING OF SWEDEN, SIGNED AT STOCKHOLM ON THE 8TH OF FEBRUARY, 1808.

The consequences of the Treaty of Tilsit, between Russia and France, unfolding themselves more and more, in such a manner as to threaten Sweden with a speedy invasion, for the purpose of forcing her to accede to the French system; and his Swedish Majesty finding himself therefore under the necessity of bringing forward, to resist its effects, a greater force than he has at his ordinary disposal—his Britannic Majesty, animated with the constant desire of contributing to the defence and security of his Ally, and of supporting him by every means in a war undertaken for the mutual interests of both States, has determined to give to his Swedish Majesty an immediate aid in money, as being the most prompt and efficacious, to be paid from time to time at fixed periods: and their Majesties having judged it expedient that a formal Convention, with regard to their reciprocal intentions in this respect, should be concluded, they have for this purpose named and authorized their respective Plenipotentiaries; that is to say—in the name and on the part of his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Edward Thornton, Esq. his Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to his Majesty the King of Sweden; and in the name and on the part of his Majesty the King of Sweden, the Baron D'Ehrenheim, President of his Chancery, and Commander of his Order of the Polar Star, who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, have agreed upon the following Articles:—

ART. I. His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, engages that there shall be paid to his Majesty the King of Sweden, the sum of 1,200,000l. sterling, in equal instalments of 100,000l. sterling each per month, beginning with the month of January of the present year inclusively, and to continue successively in the course of each month, the first of which instalments shall be paid on the Ratification of the present Convention by his Swedish Majesty.

II. His Majesty the King of Sweden engages, on his part, to employ the said sum in putting into motion, and keeping on a respectable establishment, all his land forces, and such part as shall be necessary of his fleets, and particularly his flotilla, in order to oppose the most effectual resistance to the common enemies.

III. Their said Majesties moreover engage to conclude no peace, or truce, or convention of neutrality with the enemy, but in concert and by mutual agreement.

IV. The present Convention shall be ratified by the two High Contracting Parties, and its ratifications shall be exchanged at London within the space of six weeks after the signature of the said Convention, or sooner if it can be done.

In faith whereof, we the undersigned Plenipotentiaries of their said Majesties, have signed the present Convention, and have caused the seal of our arms to be affixed thereto.

Done at Stockholm, the 8th of February, in the year of Redemption 1808.

EDW. THORNTON. F. EHRENHEIM.

### SEPARATE ARTICLE.

The Two High Contracting Parties have agreed to concert, as soon as possible, the measures to be taken, and the auxiliary succours to be stipulated for, in the case of a war actually taking place between Sweden and the Powers her neighbours; and the stipulations which may thence re-

sult shall be considered as separate and additional Articles to this Convention, and shall have the same force as if they were word for word inserted therein.

In faith of which, we the undersigned Plenipotentiaries of their said Majesties, have signed this separate Article, and have caused the seal of our arms to be affixed thereto.

Done at Stockholm, the 8th of February, in the year of Redemption, 1808,

EDW. THORNTON, F. EHRENHEIM.

# *IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.*

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

MONDAY, MARCH 7.

Lord SIDMOUTH wished to obtain information on a point in which he conceived the honour of the country to be most deeply implicated. What he alluded to was the manner in which the Danish vessels, with the persons on board them, detained previous to a declaration of war, had been disposed of. He understood the vessels and cargoes were considered as Droits of Admiralty, and the amount of the property thus condemned was, according to common report, stated at two millions sterling. He wished to know how the fact stood, and whether the crews were treated as prisoners of war. The situation of the Danes was entitled to indulgence. They had applied to Ministers on the first rumour of their armament being intended against Zealand. What answer had been returned he did not know. But the Danish Consul, on being consulted, assured them that they were perfectly safe, as no cause of hostility existed with regard to Denmark. There was no instance of our detaining vessels in our ports with a view to subsequent condemnation, except in cases where there was a moral certainty that hostilities were unavoidable. That we had not detained the Danish vessels from such motives was evident from the whole scope of our own Declaration.

Lord HAWKESBURY said, that he apprehended the Danes had not, in the instance complained of, been treated with a greater degree of severity than had been exercised towards the subjects of other countries similarly circumstanced.

Lord SUFFOLK wished to know whether the confiscated property did in fact amount to so large a sum as two millions? He thought so large a fund as resulted from the Admiralty Droits, should be available in some shape for the public service.

Lord HAWKESBURY did not know the precise amount, but conceived the sum mentioned to be greatly exaggerated. —Adjourned.

TUESDAY, MARCH 8.

Lord ERSKINE called their Lordships attention to the Order of the Day for taking into consideration the question of the legality of the Orders in Council. These Orders, he said, involved the important consideration whether the violence and injustice introduced by the French Revolution into the relations of national communities, were to terminate with the present generation, and be limitted within the immediate sphere of the arms of the Ruler of France, or whether they were to be perpetuated to all time, and extended to every nation on the surface of the globe. His Lordship then read a long string of Resolutions, commenting on each, the purport of which was to condemn the Orders in Council, as a violation of the Constitution, by the assumption of a dispensing power in the Crown; as an infraction on our municipal code, by authorising the detention and capture of foreign vessels, contrary to Magna Charta, and various statutes of Richard II. and Edward III.; and as a violation of public law, by depriving neutrals of the rights of innocent commerce, under the false pretence of their acquiescence in the French decree of the 21st of November, 1806.

Lord ELDON contended, that the Orders in Council were strictly within the acknowledged Law of Nations, and being so, had been legitimately adopted on the authority of his Majesty's War Prerogative. His Lordship then moved the previous question, which was carried by a large majority.—Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9.

The Sugar Bounty and Drawback Bills were received from the Commons, and read a first time.—Adjourned.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10.

Lord STANHOPE gave notice, that he should call the attention of their Lordships on a future day to a subject which demanded serious consideration. He alluded to the legal reports from Courts of Justice, in which the Judges were made to say what they did not say. In a recent case, wherein he was concerned, the facts had been mistated in a Morning Paper, and the object of his intended motion was to prevent a recurrence of similar inaccuracy.

Lord HAWKESBURY laid before the House the treaty with Sweden.

### OFFICES IN REVERSION BILL.

On the Order of the Day being read for going into a Committee on this Bill,

Lord ARDEN rose to oppose the Bill, on the ground that it was subversive of the principles of the Constitution. His Lordship concluded by moving, that the Order of the Day for committing the Bill be discharged.

After a few observations, the question was loudly called for, and the House divided on Lord Arden's motion.—Contents 84—Non-Contents 84.

The vote of the Lord Chancellor decided the question, and the House went into a Committee.

Lord HAWKESBURY then proposed that the duration of the Bill should be limitted to the 1st of June, 1810: and intimated that his proposition did not exclude any Noble Lord from bringing the subject again before the House within a short period, in a more satisfactory shape. The proposition occasioned a conversation between the Lord Chancellor, Lords Grey, Holland, and Lauderdale. The last three Noble Lords opposed the proposition.

On the question being put a division again took place, and the numbers—Contents, 59—Non-Contents, 21.

The Bill, with the Amendments, then went through the Committee.—Adjourned.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11.

Lord Lake's Annuity Bill, and the Scotch Creditors Bill, were read a third time and passed.

Lord MOIRA moved the second reading of the Debtor and Creditor Bill. He entered into a detail of the grievances which the Debtor suffered at present when arrested in mesne process; and when taken in execution; and pointed out the advantage which would result both to the Debtor and Creditor, from adopting the principle of a *Cessio Bonorum*, which had formed part of the Roman law, and which was adopted into the legal code of most of the modern European nations.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH opposed the Bill, alledging that the process of arrest in five cases out of six produced payment of the debt, without even the step of putting in bail being resorted to. He quoted various passages from Lord Hale's works on the dangers of innovation.

Lord HOLLAND supported the Bill, which, after a few words from Lord MOIRA in reply to Lord ELLENBOROUGH, was rejected, on a division, by nine to five.—Adjourned to Monday.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, MARCH 7.

Sir F. BURDETT moved for an account of the total sum paid to his Majesty by his Royal Warrants, by the Re-

gistrar of the Court of Admiralty, being Droits of the Crown, since the 1st of January, 1792, to the latest period the same could be made up, distinguishing the balance remaining due in the custody of the Registrar of the Admiralty. When this account should be produced, the Hon. Baronet gave notice, that he would appoint an early day thereafter, for a motion on the subject of these Droits.—The account was ordered.—Adjourned.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 8.

Sir C. POLE moved for leave to bring in a Bill for better regulating Greenwich Hospital, and the Royal Naval Asylum. He said that this Bill was founded on the last Report of the Board of Naval Enquiry, and he meant to propose that in future all the Officers employed in Greenwich Hospital should be those who had lost their limbs in the naval service, and were thereby rendered incapable of pursuing their profession.

Mr. ROSE objected to the introduction of this Bill, till such time as the regulations which were now preparing for it, by order of his Majesty, could be laid on the table, as those regulations would supersede the necessity of parliamentary interference. Independent of this objection, it would be seen that the Commissioners could not, in justice to the Institution, appoint naval characters to the different offices of Surveyor and Auditor: both of these required professional men.

Mr. WHITBREAD observed, that the Commissioners of Naval Enquiry had, by their Report, convinced the House of the necessity of such a Bill as the present, which went to do away the most glaring abuses. It was ridiculous to suppose that no man could be found in the navy to fill the office of Auditor. He would only appeal to the Right Hon. Gentleman's own experience, who had been in the navy, and subsequently filled the office of Secretary of the Treasury.—(*A laugh.*) It would appear by the Report, that a Swiss, of the name of Henry Clue, filled the office of Shaver in Greenwich Hospital, a sinecure of more than 150*l.* per annum. In the shaver's examination, he told the Commissioners he could not shave, but occasionally looked on.—(*A laugh.*) By such appointments the terms of the charter had been completely violated, and it was really high time to put an end to this most disgraceful sort of peculation. He therefore concluded by supporting the motion, being firmly convinced that a number of seafaring persons could be found fully qualified to fill the different offices in Greenwich Hospital, and the Royal Naval Asylum.

Mr. PERCEVAL had no objection to the Bill, but could not see the necessity of pressing it at this moment, especially as his Majesty's Regulations would in a few days be laid before the House, which would do away the necessity of an Act of Parliament.

Sir F. BURDETT was astonished that any opposition could be made to a Bill which went to reform abuses that were admitted to have existed for more than 30 years. His object in rising was to thank the gallant Admiral for his successful endeavours in bringing forward to public reprobation these glaring abuses, and he hoped the good sense of the House would approve the salutary remedy this Bill intended to apply.

The Gallery was cleared, when the House divided—Ayes 52—Noes 78—Majority against the introduction of the Bill, 26.

## THE ARMY.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, on the Mutiny Bill.

Lord CASTLEREAGH felt perfectly convinced of the necessity of doing away part of the clause respecting unlimited service. Military men were averse to the system introduced by the Right Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Windham). In the Colonies, where no less than 90,000 men were employed, the expence of sending soldiers backwards and forwards, according to the new system, was more than 450,000*l.* additional, and surely this was a serious consideration. The Noble Lord had no objection to limited service at home, but it was productive of serious evil abroad, where it would be impossible to support an army. The measure was radically bad, and he trusted the House would see the propriety of expunging that part of the Bill, which, if continued, would ultimately ruin our military establishment.

Mr. WINDHAM opposed the clause. He said he did so upon strong grounds, as it was a clandestine and insidious attempt to overturn all the principles of military service he had submitted in the course of the existence of the late Administration. That plan embraced limited service for seven years, fourteen, and twenty-one, and the question was, upon the present occasion, whether, in the Mutiny Bill now before the Committee, the clause proposed by the Noble Lord was intended for the Bill, or the Bill for the clause. Mr. Windham then proceeded to read his own military resolutions, and those of Lord Castlereagh at the end of the last Parliament. The resolutions of Mr. Windham proved, that in the first year after the plan was in force, its first quarter's produce was 11,000 men, its second 13,000, its third 21,000, and its fourth 24,000.—This was a pretty strong proof of the efficacy of the measure for enlisting men for limited periods of service. The Noble Lord's resolution made out the same number of men, but it was in a clumsey sort of a way. Those who had seen that facetious person called the Clown, at Astley's, or Hughes's, and witnessed the younger Astley vault into the saddle like a feathered Mercury, would no doubt remember the joke of the Clown in attaining the saddle, by climbing up the horse's tail, and claiming applauses for doing the same thing done by his master. Just so was the conduct of the Noble Lord in that resolution. The Noble Lord had said he had raised more men than his (Mr. Windham's) plan had produced. But how did he make that out? He had said, that the plan for limited service had been in existence for 19 months. This he utterly denied; it had only existed 12 months, and during the time it did exist, the recruiting for the line recovered from the state of decay into which it had fallen, and continued to flourish and prosper, until the present Ministry shed its baneful influence over it. Such was the demand for substitutes in the militia to replace those men taken from the militia last summer into the line, that 60*l.* was in various instances given for substitutes, who might, and who in many cases did, transfer themselves into the line for limited service the next day, thereby taking an additional bounty from the country. The Right Hon. Gentleman at great length animadverted with considerable severity on the injustice and iniquity of the proposed innovation, which was levelled at the utter ruin of the military plans of the late Administration, which were to be overwhelmed at one stroke. The famous Additional Force Act had produced 12,000 men, but the desertions were one in five, notwithstanding all the *stimuli* of Lord Hawkesbury's circular letter. He concluded a very long speech by declaring his decided negative to the clause.

The SECRETARY AT WAR supported the motion for expunging the clause, it being absolutely necessary for the salvation of the military establishment of this country.

Mr. Windham and Lord Castlereagh severally explained; when the House divided—Ayes 169—Noes 100.—Adjourned.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply, when various Resolutions for Miscellaneous Services were voted. These consisted of 144,000*l.* for the American Loyalists; 141,000*l.* for the Suffering Clergy of France, for Bow-street Police Office, and for several other Public Institutions.

The House resolved into a Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. PERCEVAL stated, that he rose to submit a propo-

sition for funding 4,000,000l. of Exchequer Bills. It certainly would be a desirable thing to remove these Bills from the market; and it was meant that it should be done by a public subscription, without any regard to the dates of these Bills. The Three per Centums, he observed, was the fund most generally resorted to by the Public; but he did not wish that fund to be used more than any other, or to be at all overcharged. He should, therefore, propose a Resolution, that these 4,000,000l. of Exchequer Bills be funded in the 4 and 5 per Cents. The Right Hon. Gentleman moved accordingly; and, after a few words from Mr. N. Vansittart and Mr. Huskisson, it was agreed to, and the Report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

## MARQUIS WELLESLEY.

The Order of the Day for resuming the Adjourned Debate on the Oude Papers was read—

Lord FOLKSTONE then addressed the House.—The charge he meant to submit against the Marquis Wellesley, was his cruel and harsh treatment of the Nabob of Oude, once a great, a powerful, and an independent Prince in India, but now shorn of his rank and freedom. When that Nabob ascended the musnud (the throne), a lac and a half of rupees were due by the territory of Oude to the East India Company, and Lord Wellesley, on his setting out to India, conceived the plan of ruining this Potentate, which he presently set about carrying into execution, at least the Marquis did so after the expiration of twelve months, he having been in the mean time occupied by other matters. At that time there was a treaty in existence, which had been but recently entered into by the Nabob of Oude and the East India Company, which abrogated and did away all former treaties, and clearly settled and defined the terms of the future relationship and intercourse of the contracting parties. Lord Folkstone said, he should be enabled to shew by evidence the most clear and satisfactory, that Lord Wellesley had wantonly violated and broken through that treaty. That treaty stipulated, that the Nabob should in future be deprived of all external political consequence, and yet that he should retain the entire management of his own affairs, and the usual authority vested in him over his dominions. The Company, by that treaty, engaged to defend the Nabob's territory, and if a force for that purpose should be necessary beyond 13,000 men, the numbers beyond these were to be paid by the Nabob. Of this positive stipulation Lord Wellesley made a very improper use; he used it as a means of oppressing the Nabob, insisting, that imminent dangers impended over the Nabob's possessions, and urging the necessity for the introduction of British troops into Oude, in order to the protection of its Sovereign, the Nabob's own troops being very disorderly and mutinous, which induced the Nabob to wish a reduction of their numbers. The Nabob did so, and reduced all his battalions but those under the command of an officer named Almas. This the Marquis construed into a design against the Company, and was one of the causes of his immediately sending British troops into Oude. There was another charge against the Noble Marquis, which was that of compelling the Nabob to cede the one half of his territory, and this latter, Lord Folkstone said, appeared to have been Marquis Wellesley's great design. Lord Folkstone then referred to the letters between Col. Scott, the British Resident at Lucknow, the capital of Oude, and Lord Wellesley; and from Col. Scott's letters he contended, that the Nabob had been in every instance faithful to his engagements, and anxious to fulfil all the stipulations into which he had entered in the treaty with the Company. From Lord Wellesley's letters and dispatches to Colonel Scott, his Lordship argued that it was evident Lord Wellesley had treated the Nabob with most opprobrious contempt. Lord Wellesley, after this, in order to compel the Nabob to comply with his urgent demands (though that Monarch had been punctual in paying his subsidies to the Company) harassed him with a claim for an arrear due to the Company, from the time the British forces had formerly defended his territory. This sum was due at the time the treaty was made, and in it was a clause securing its payment; therefore Lord Folkstone contended, that if Lord Wellesley meant to insist on payment of that arrear, he ought to have specifically intimated such a demand to the Nabob. Distressed beyond all bearing by these measures, the Nabob, at length, consented to cede one half of his territory to the Company, and to disband his troops. In the subsequent arrangements, the Nabob was still anxious to possess the active management of his own affairs, and the government of his people; but these points, although they were stipulated in the treaty, Lord Wellesley withheld from the Nabob; and appointed a person to reside at Lucknow to superintend all the transactions and conduct of its Sovereign. After dwelling upon these points, and commenting on the harshness of Lord Wellesley, Lord Folkstone concluded by moving the first of a string of Resolutions, censuring and condemning the conduct of the Marquis Wellesley in regard to the Nabob of Oude.

Mr. W. KEENE supported the motion, and lamented that this enquiry had been so long procrastinated.

Sir JOHN ANSTRUTHER also complained of the delay, as it was injurious to the feelings of the Noble Marquis. He was astonished that such libellous matter had been so long on the table of that House without reprobation. No man could have any well-founded complaint against the Noble Marquis on the score of injustice, and the native Chiefs of India, only, had to complain of the nature and principles of the British Government, which protected the lower order from tyranny and oppression. The Hon. Gentleman was himself well acquainted with the wise and equitable policy pursued by the Noble Lord; and with respect to the conduct adopted towards the Nabob of Oude, surely that measure was sanctioned by the Court of Directors. It was well known to the Directors that the civil and military Government of Oude was in such a state as to require an immediate reformation. The whole State was in confusion, and the Nabob without authority over his subjects. In that situation it became absolutely necessary for the Governor-General to interfere. Surely, if he acted by the instructions of the Secret Committee, he could not now be impeached for obeying their orders. This could be clearly proved from their own dispatches; for when the Noble Lord sent home his resignation, they wrote him an answer, which strongly indicated a confidence in his meritorious administration. They begged of him to continue in India another season, and complete the salutary reform he had introduced into the Government of Oude. The Hon. Gentleman then entered into the history of the Noble Marquis's Indian policy, and concluded with moving the previous question, and submitting another motion to the following effect, viz. "That it appears to this House that the conduct pursued by the Marquis of Wellesley in India was highly meritorious, and beneficial to the British interest, and the inhabitants in general."

Col. ALLAN said, the Papers before the House bore testimony to the meritorious conduct of the Noble Marquis, who laid the foundation of British influence in India.

Mr. CHARLES GRANT contended, that the Noble Marquis's Indian policy was highly injurious to the British interest in India, where the most sacred treaties had been violated. He had, however, a high veneration for the merits of that distinguished Nobleman.

Mr. WALLACE vindicated the administration of Lord Wellesley in India.

Mr. LUSHINGTON argued strongly against it, as not founded upon true policy, but upon acts of rapacity and violence.

Mr. BANKES was afraid the House was throwing away its time in discussing the subject. It ought to be referred to the Committee, appointed as the East India Judicature, for the trial of all offences committed in India.

The cases of Sir T. Rumbold and Mr. Hastings were strong instances of what he had stated.

Mr. H. SMITH observed, as the hour was late, and as there were many Gentlemen who had not spoken, he should therefore move that this debate be adjourned.

The debate was adjourned till Tuesday next.—Adjourned.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 10.

Mr. CANNING brought down a Message from the King, stating that his Majesty had thought it proper to inform the House of Commons, that the King of Sweden having resisted all the threats of France, his dominions were now exposed to imminent danger and peril. That his Majesty had entered into a Treaty with the King of Sweden, of a subsidiary nature; and his Majesty relied upon his faithful Commons taking the measures necessary to enable his Majesty to fulfil his engagement.—Ordered to be referred to the consideration of the Committee of Supply.

ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

Mr. Alderman COMBE presented a Petition from certain Merchants in the City of London, carrying on trade with the United States of America, against the late Orders in Council, praying to be heard by Counsel at the bar, against the said Orders. The Hon. Member moved that the Petition do lie on the table.

Sir W. CURTIS stated, that he did not mean to object to the Petition lying on the table, but the House ought to be put in possession of a few facts, that had given rise to the Petition. For some days advertisements had appeared in the public newspapers, calling a meeting of American Merchants on this day, at the London Tavern. He was not present at that meeting, but he had heard that a discussion took place, and an amendment was carried, that no petition should be presented. Three out of four parts of the meeting were in favour of the amendment.

Mr. BARING, the Chairman of the Meeting, defended the Petition; and said, that if certain gentlemen, who had no right to have been present, had kept away, the result of the discussion would have been different from what it had been. There were present a number of West India Merchants. The gentleman even who seconded the amendment said, that the Orders in Council were the most foolish measures that ever had been heard of.

Mr. PERCEVAL had no objection to the Petition. The Petition was ordered to lie on the table.

General GASCOIGNE presented a Petition from certain Merchants in Liverpool against the Orders in Council, praying to be heard by Counsel at the bar. He should move that Counsel be heard on Thursday next.

Mr. WHITBREAD contended, that if the Bill were once passed, there would be little hope that the petitioners could have adequate redress. He should move, therefore, instead of Thursday next, that the word "now" be inserted.

Lord CASTLEREAGH replied, that the petitioners were not deprived of redress; for if the Bill should be even passed this night, there was a clause in it which enabled the House to revise and rescind it, if necessary. If the House did not choose to resort to that expedient, then it might present an Address to his Majesty for the suspension of the Bill.

The House divided, Ayes, 66—*Noes*, 99—Majority, 33, against receiving the petition now.

On the re-opening of the gallery, it appeared that Lord FOLKESTONE had moved an amendment to the motion for the third reading of the Bill on the Orders in Council. He moved, that instead of the words "be now read a third time," the words "this day se'nnight" be inserted.

Lord Folkestone's motion was negatived, and the debate continued. The Opposition, however, persisted in dividing the House on the question of adjournment, and *four* divisions took place. At length the Chancellor of the Exchequer consented that the debate should be adjourned. Adjourned at five in the morning.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 4.

AFFAIRS OF INDIA.

Mr. R. DUNDAS stated to the House, that it was now time to call their attention to the affairs of our East India possessions. They were not in that progressive state of commercial increase of profits as enabled the East India Company to say, that their income exceeded their expenditure; on the contrary, the reverse was the case last year, and there was no circumstance that warranted him in saying it could be otherwise in the present. There existed a deficit, and the object he had in view was to shew that, together with its causes, to a Committee of that House, who should investigate the same, and make their report from time to time. By this means some measures may be adopted which may avert future inconveniences, and, either by reducing the debt of the Company, give it more vigour, or adopt such remedy as may answer the purposes of the State and of the Company in their present emergency. He then moved, that a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the present State of the East India Company's Affairs, and to report their observations thereon from time to time to that House.—Agreed to.

ORDERS OF COUNCIL.

Colonel STANLEY presented a petition from the Merchants and Traders of Lancashire, against the Orders of Council.—Ordered to lie on the table.

The order of the day was read for resuming the debate upon the Orders of Council.

The SPEAKER then put the question, that the debate be now resumed.

Lord FOLKSTONE proposed an amendment, that instead of the word *now*, "Monday week be inserted."

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER resisted the amendment, which was negatived.

[Here Mr. WHITBREAD took occasion to ask across the table whether the subsidy granted by the new treaty was the whole which the King of Sweden was to expect thereon, or whether the money so to be given was on account of any old treaty?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER answered, it was founded on the new treaty, and was the whole that Government intended to advance to that Monarch.]

The debate on the Orders of Council then proceeded.

Mr. SPEAKER put the question, "that this Bill be now read a 3d time."

Upon which Mr. BARING addressed the House at very considerable length, against the principle and practice of the measure.

Mr. ROSE entered at considerable length into a reply to what had fallen from the Hon. Gentleman. He stated, as a fact, that the trade of this country with the Continent had increased considerably since the issuing of the Orders in Council, so much so, that if it continued at the same rate of increase as it had done during the last nine weeks, there would be an excess to the amount of 900,000*l.* over the trade of last year.

Mr. E. MORRIS opposed the Bill.

Mr. HALL supported the Bill, as also did the SOLICITOR-GENERAL; but as the subject has been so often discussed, we do not think it necessary to enter into any detail of the various arguments on both sides of the House.

Mr. GRATTAN spoke against the Bill. He argued, that the United States of America had not acquiesced in Bonaparte's decree of blockade, and that there was no reason to suppose they would ever have submitted to it. It was therefore most unjust to make them suffer under that pretence. He considered the Orders in Council to be fraught with the most ruinous consequences to the empire in general, but in particular to the trade of Ireland, as the existence of the linen manufacture depended on the importation of flax seed from America. He concluded

by opposing the Bill, as a measure hostile to the honour, the interests, and the justice of the country.

Mr. BANKES spoke in support of the Bill.

A conversation of considerable length followed, in which Mr. WILBERFORCE, Lord HENRY PETTY, Mr. CANNING, and Mr. WHITBREAD took a part.

The House then divided—Ayes 168—Noes 68—Majority 100.—Adjourned till Monday.

## *PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.*

Wednesday evening Madame Catalani arrived at Bath, to *give*, as she terms it, the first of two Subscription Concerts; as early as three o'clock in the afternoon, scores of ladies and gentlemen, determined to have good seats, were crowding at the doors of the New Assembly-rooms, and two hours before the commencement of the performance, the room was thronged almost to suffocation. Expectation was on the tiptoe; all the lovers of sweet sounds thought every moment an age, when, at half after seven, Mr. Rauzzini entered, attended by Mr. Bennett, and the latter addressed the astonished audience as follows:—"Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sorry to inform you, that Madame Catalani, by travelling all night, has caught a severe cold, and is suffering under a dreadful hoarseness and sore throat; still as she is anxious to perform to the best of her abilities, she will appear before you, but begs you will allow her to substitute other songs for those difficult ones mentioned in the bills." Never was there so sudden a change in an audience—some thought they had been tricked by the conductor—others, that it was one of those feints great performers occasionally practise, in order to make their exertions appear still the more wonderful; but their conjectures were soon set at rest; she entered the orchestra pale and languid, and attempted an easy air, which was transposed a third lower for her; but all was vain, not the shadow of a note remained; and, thus situated, the remainder of the concert was performed as soon as possible, without applause, without attention—and the conductor made his bow amidst complaints and murmurs, "*not loud, but deep.*"

*Simmons*, the murderer, was executed on Monday, pursuant to his sentence, at half past eleven o'clock in the forenoon, between Hertford and Ware. He behaved with that air of indifference which marked his conduct during his trial. He shook hands with three persons who accompanied him to the scaffold, and whispered a few words to the goaler before he was turned off.

Thursday evening a young lady, of the name of Capper, who had been on a visit at Birmingham, arrived at Worcester by the mail coach; and, after taking some refreshment, proceeded onwards to Bristol. After having travelled several miles on the road to Tewkesbury, one of the horses became so unmanageable, that the guard went from the dickey to the box to assist, in doing which, the reins broke, and the horses set off at full speed. The coachman jumped from the box, in the hope of being able to stop them, but he was thrown down, and on recovering himself found the young lady (who, with a child of the coachman, was the only passenger) lifeless, near the same spot. Alarmed at the danger of her situation, it is presumed, she must have been killed in attempting to throw herself from the coach. When the horses stopped, the child was found unhurt in the coach. Various reports are afloat respecting this melancholy business, in which the guard and coachman are said to be implicated; but we forbear to state them.

## ASSIZES.

CHELMSFORD, MARCH 10.—*R. P. Murchison, J. P. Hopkins, and G. W. Dundas*, Lieutenants in the first battalion of the 43d regiment of foot, all apparently very young men, were tried for the wilful murder of John Ogilvie, late a Lieutenant in the same regiment, in a duel at Danbury, Essex, on the 7th of February last. From the evidence given, the Chief Baron told the Jury, that the deceased had, in the eye of the law, been murdered; and if they could satisfactorily collect that the prisoners were the persons who committed the fact, then they were all guilty of murder.—The Jury, after some hesitation, *acquitted* all the prisoners.

READING.—*J. Tomkinson* was charged with the murder of J. Chadwick. The prisoner belongs to the Royal Horse Guards blue, and the deceased was a private in the Staffordshire Militia; it appeared that they were drinking at a public-house at Windsor, when words arose, the prisoner struck the deceased, and he died the following day.—The Jury returned a verdict of *manslaughter*, and the Court sentenced him to pay a fine of 1s. and to be imprisoned one month.

*W. Cox* was indicted for a rape on the body of Sarah Hollidge, in the parish of Letcomb Bassett. The prosecutrix is a little girl, not more than eleven years of age. From the nature of the child's testimony there appeared but little doubt of the fact; but, from a small defect in the evidence, he was, to the regret of the whole Court, *acquitted*, but was afterwards tried for the assault, *convicted*, and sentenced to pay a fine of 10s. and be imprisoned for two years.

## *TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.*

### BANKRUPTCIES ENLARGED.

B. Damant, Whitechapel, brazier, from March 12, to April 16, at ten, at Guildhall.

J. Thornton, Lawrence-Pountney-lane, merchant, from March 5, to April 23, at ten, at Guildhall.

### BANKRUPTS.

R. Hamlin, Tottenham-court-road, victualler, to surrender March 19, 22, April 19, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Hutchinson and Emmott, Addle-street.

G. Duffield, York-buildings, Bermondsey New Road, wool-carder, March 19, 22, April 19, at one, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Cross, King-street, Southwark.

T. Read, Bishopsgate-street, Cheesemonger, March 12, 26, April 19, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Burt, John-street, Crutched-friars.

J. Seaward, Union-place, Kent-road, builder, March 12, 22, April 19, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attornies, Mess. Alcock and Co. York-street, Southwark.

R. C. Green, Lincoln's Inn, money-scrivener, March 15, at ten, April 2, at eleven, 19, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Dawes, Angel-court, Throgmorton-street.

R. Thomason, Staining, Lancashire, corn-dealer, March 31, April 1, 19, at eleven, at the George Inn, Preston. Attornies, Mr. Startisant, Preston.

J. Hollyer, Coventry, ribbon-manufacturer, March 23, at five, March 24, April 19, at ten, at the White Bear Inn, Coventry. Attorney, Mr. Troughton, Coventry.

R. Holroyd, Sowerby, Yorkshire, woollen-manufacturer, March 24, at four, March 25, April 19, at ten, at the Union Cross Inn, Halifax. Attornies, Messrs. Wigglesworth and Thompson, Halifax.

T. Robinson, Manchester, innkeeper, March 28, 29, at four, April 19, at eleven, at the Bridgewater Arms, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. Law, Manchester.

E. Eardley, Exeter, dealer, March 12, 19, April 19, at eleven, at the Globe Tavern, Exeter. Attorney, Mr. Turner, Exeter.

T. I. Watkis, Salford, Lancashire, cotton-merchant, March 14, 30, April 19, at three, at the Palace Inn, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. Heslop, Manchester.

J. and J. Holden, Salford, dyers, March 14, 30, April 19, at 4, at the Palace Inn, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. Heslop, Manchester.

J. Ridley, Manchester, tailor, April 4, 6, 19, at three, at the White Lion Inn, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. Milne, Manchester.

R. Dyer, Bath, cornfactor, March 24, 25, April 19, at eleven, at the Christopher Inn, Bath. Attorney, Mr. Sheppard, Bath.

DIVIDENDS.

May 3. W. Smith, Rosemary-lane, cheesemonger.—April 9. J. Rowland, Graystock-place, Fetter-lane, carpenter.—April 11. W. Hanslip, Stradbrook, tanner.—March 29. W. Traynor, Jermyn-street, tailor.—May 3. J. Baird, Barbican, distiller.—May 3. E. Railton, Borough, hop-merchant.—April 23. S. Headen, Threadneedle-street, insurance-broker.—May 24. J. Stevens and J. Cartter, Bread-street, warehousemen.—March 28. R. Farr, Woonton, Herefordshire, timber-merchant—April 18. J. Coward, Ulverstone, Lancashire, ironmonger.—March 28. R. Roberts, Liverpool, merchant.—March 29. W. Sandford and J. Box, Salford, dyers.

CERTIFICATES—March 26.

J. Jones, Limehouse, baker.—T. Bowgin, Little Newstreet, plaisterer.—J. Atkinson, Birmingham, ironfounder.—J. Glover, Worcester, porter-brewer.—H. Ramsbotham, Bradford, Yorkshire, merchant.

## *SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.*

BANKRUPTCIES ENLARGED.

R. Bayly, jun. Dowgate-hill, London, merchant, from March 12 to April 2, at eleven, at Guildhall.

R. Jones, Gower-street, Whitechapel, silk-winder, from March 19, to April 2, at eleven, at Guildhill.

G. Crocker, Bideford, Devonshire, ship-builder, from March 22, to March 29, at ten, at the Golden Lion Inn, Barnstaple, Devonshire.

J. Brefht, Alfreton, Derbyshire, mercer, from March 22, to April 18, at eleven, at the Angel Inn, Alfreton.

C. Wright, Aldgate, London, tobacconist, from March 12, to April 30, at twelve, at Guildhall.

S. Abrahams, Sandwich, Kent, linen-draper, from March 1, to April 19, at ten, at Guildhall, London.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

J. Johnson, Twickett's Mills, Paulespury, Northampton, miller.

BANKRUPTS.

James Pearce, St. Alban's-street, Pall-mall, ladies shoemaker, to surrender March 15, April 2, at eleven, 23, at ten, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Denton and Barker, Field-court, Gray's Inn.

Wm. Hillman, Waltham-Cross, Herts, grocer, March 15, 26, April 23, at ten, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Reynolds, Castle-street, Falcon-square, London.

Thomas Poulton, Ross, Herefordshire, timber-merchant, March 28, 29, April 23, at eleven, at the Unicorn Inn, Worcester. Attorney, Mr. Wilson, Newhouse, Ross.

Lewis Lewis and Francis Rudd, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, milliners, March 21, April 12, 23, at eleven, at the Shakespeare Tavern, Newcastle. Attorney, Mr. Lambert, Newcastle.

Peter Francis Vennult de Charmilly, Millbank-street, Westminster, coal-merchant, March 15, 26, April 23, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Collett, Wimburn, and Collett, Chancery-lane.

Wm. Evans, Wooton, Oxfordshire, butcher, March 28, 29, April 23, at eleven, at the Bear Inn, Woodstock. Attorney, Mr. Haynes, Atterbury, Oxfordshire.

John Fossey, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, straw-hat-manufacturer, March 19, at twelve, 26, at two, April 23, at twelve, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Birkett, Bond-court, Walbrook, London.

James Brown, Tavistock, Devon, house-builder, April 4, 5, 23, at eleven, at the Pope's Head Inn, Plymouth. Attorney, Mr. Bray, Tavistock.

Alexander Foreshaw, Whitechapel High-street, victualler, March 19, 26, April 23, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Noy, Mincing-lane.

DIVIDENDS.

April 9. J. S. Taylor, Gracechurch-street, straw hat-manufacturer.—April 4. J. Whiteley, Plymouth, merchant.—May 3. W. Treppass, St. Martin's-le-Grand, bookseller.—March 19. T. Harris, Oxford-street, mattrass-maker.—April 11. R. Fowler, Mortimer-street, upholder.—April 5. M. Furnell, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, banker.—April 25. W. Self, Bath, mercer.—April 12. Clement S. Richardson, Cambridge, linen-draper.—April 23. J. Tyrrell, Maidstone, ironmonger.—April 9. F. Francis, Chiswick, smith.—April 11. Wm. M'Kinlay, Liverpool, linen-draper.—April 30. A. Mackean, Winchester-street, merchant.—April 4. T. Barlow, Liverpool, taylor.—April 6. G. Symens, Plymouth Dock, mercer.—April 6. J. Benson, J. Dennison, J. Robinson, Bolton-by-the-Sands, calico-printers.—April 4. J. Simpson, Kingston-upon-Hull, ship-carpenter.—March 19. R. Prested, Brick-lane, Spitalfields, shoemaker.—April 9. W. Fortnum, Ball-ally, Lombard-street, stationer.

CERTIFICATES—April 2.

J. Townson, Plymouth Dock, hatter.—Victor Busigney and J. Rothwell, Liverpool, merchants.

PRICE OF STOCKS YESTERDAY.

3 per Cent. Cons. for money, 64⅛ | Ditto, for April 61 11/32.
2 per Cent. Red. shut.

# THE EXAMINER.

## *LONDON:*

SUNDAY, MARCH 13.

The prospect of the Mediterranean begins to be very busy. Sir John Stuart is about to take the command of all the British troops there. Two French squadrons are out of harbour, and are supposed to be directly or indirectly going either to the East or to Sicily, and there is great probability that the English army will again have the honour of shewing how well they can contend with victorious Frenchmen. If the enemy meet us at sea, the result is already known.

By Friday's intelligence from the Continent the French Mission to Persia appears to have reached that country on the 3d of November. Gen. Gardanne met the Persian Ambassador on his way to Paris with some valuable presents for Napoleon, and a number of compliments passed between the two travellers, as becomes the smirking representatives of pacific Sovereigns. The idea of presenting Napoleon with swords, of which the presents are said chiefly to consist, seems a prophetic emblem of the inconsiderate attachment of the Persian Prince.

Napoleon seems about to flatter the two other Emperors by a participation in the Ottoman downfall. Austria is assembling a powerful force on the confines of Turkey, under the command of the Archduke Charles and General Bellegarde. The approaching summer will most probably bring the military locusts on the rich plains of the Hellespont. The ruin of the Turkish empire, that empire so cruel and fantastic in its dotage, is indeed, of all other na-

tional downfalls, the least likely to hurt the feelings of disinterested freemen, but the English will, no doubt, protest against the approaching partition, for it is an abominable thing that they cannot share in it.

The Swedes are concentrating their forces in order to oppose the Russians, who are said to have entered Finland. They have therefore fallen back from the frontier to join the main army, which is daily receiving additional troops from every quarter of the interior. The troops in Scania however have been withdrawn from that province under the supposition that our fleet will prevent any invasion from Denmark. This is not altogether so prudent, if squadrons can escape in the north seas as they do in the Mediterranean.

The capture of some Genoese vessels by the cruizers of the Dey of Algiers has decided the rupture between the great plunderer and the little. NAPOLEON has decreed, that all the Algerines in France and Italy shall be imprisoned and their property sequestrated. It is a pity that our own country could not have inflicted justice on this old offender; for, I suppose, we shall exclaim against it, if it is done by the FRENCH EMPEROR. I have often wondered, that he did not contrive to get some footing on the Barbary coast, which would be of such material service to him in his Mediterranean views. It has long been a disgrace to civilised Europe, that this petty African robber has been suffered to plunder the most powerful nations of Christendom. He has now, however, to deal with no common *Christian*.

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Two sail of the line, five frigates, four gun-brigs and a bomb, have been ordered by the Admiralty to take on board a variety of ordnance stores at Portsmouth, and to sail for the Baltic. The harbour contains eighty transports almost ready for sea.

The whole of the German Legion, several regiments of cavalry, and 6000 foot guards, are among the troops to be sent out to Sweden. Lord CATHCART is to have the chief command, and is to have under him Sir JOHN MOORE, Sir DAVID BAIRD, Sir ARTHUR WELLESLEY, &c. &c.

It is the general opinion that General SPENCER's force was destined to act against Ceuta. Twenty-six transports, part of his armament, arrived at Gibraltar on the 23d January. We believe the strength of Ceuta has been very erroneously estimated. Its works are perhaps as formidable as any in Europe. It possesses a ditch in which a frigate might sail with ease. Reinforcements have been sent to it; and it is asserted at Gibraltar that the garrison cannot now consist of less than 10,000 men. In addition to this there are above 14,000 convicts always at Ceuta; many of whom are trained to service as light troops. The troops had been embarked at Gibraltar for the purpose of proceeding to the point of attack; but the alarm of the Rochefort Squadron, and the probability of its proceeding against Sicily, induced the General to postpone their sailing.

It appears likely that the Carthagena, Toulon, and Rochefort squadrons will effect a junction, Lord COLLINGWOOD having proceeded towards the Adriatic, for the purpose of looking after some Russian vessels in that quarter.

By letters from France of a late date, we learn that the POPE has resigned in favour of BONAPARTE's uncle, Cardinal FESCH.

Cardinal CASSONI, by order of Pope PIUS, has issued a notice, protesting against the occupation by France of any part of the papal territory.—His Holiness had better submit wih a good grace.

It appears that the enemy seriously meditate the invasion of Sicily; but previously to undertaking that enterprise, it has been resolved to dispossess the English of Fort Scylla, situated on a rock on the Continental side of the Streights of Messina. The army for this purpose is assembling in Calabria, where King JOSEPH is shortly expected to join it.

On the 23d of December last, BONAPARTE signed at Milan a Decree, by which he finally determined the fate of Portugal. The substance of the Decree declares the throne of Portugal abdicated by the family of BRAGANZA, which is never more to reign; and that henceforward the kingdom of Portugal is to be united and considered as a part of the dominions of France.

Petitions for peace are daily presented to Parliament. That from Manchester, on Friday, was signed by 35,000 inhabitants, principally manufacturers:—We fear these petitions will do harm. The demands of the FRENCH EMPEROR will certainly not be decreased by such proofs of our sufferings. It is like endeavouring to soften a merciless creditor, by telling him you are unable to pay.

A most remarkable duel was fought at Brannau, on the 12th ult. between Baron VON DUBEN, formerly Swedish Minister at Vienna, and Baron VON WREDE, a Bavarian General. Some dispatches had been intercepted, in which the former said that the Bavarian troops surpassed the French in acts of pillage and cruelty. General WREDE immediately challenged the Swede, but the meeting was for some time prevented. They at length met near Brannau, in the presence of a great number of the inhabitants: they entered the lists, which were guarded by the military, and placed themselves at a distance of 15 paces. Baron DUBEN fired; and the ball passed the ear of his adversary. Gen. WREDE's pistol missed fire. The Baron's second ball passed the General's breast. The General's next pistol flashed in the pan. Enraged at this mischance, he drew his sword and advanced, but the seconds (the English Colonel BURCKE and Count RECHBURGH) rushed forward, and declared that the combatants had acted like men of honour, and that nothing further should take place. This duel, from its publicity and solemnity, puts one in mind of the judicial combats of the feudal ages.

On Monday the JUDGE ADVOCATE informed the Court the prosecution was closed.—General WHITELOCKE having informed the President he would not be ready for his defence till to-morrow, the Court adjourned until that day.

A Gentleman who is just arrived in this country from Spain, states that, at the time of his departure, there were above 180,000 French troops in Spain, whose presence had inspired much terror in the population of the country. They had not been guilty of any exactions or oppressions, but they seemed very anxious to impress the Spaniards with an idea that resistance to their will would be attended with dangerous consequences. Their will and object, according to the general apprehension of reflecting men in Spain, is a revolution in the Government of that country. That revolution, however, is not expected to involve the total removal of the House of Bourbon, but the subjugation of what is to remain of that House to the will of BONAPARTE, by the marriage of the Prince of ASTURIAS to a member of his family, or rather that of the Empress JOSEPHINE, whose niece has been for some time destined for the heir-apparent of Spain.

We hear most melancholy accounts from various quarters in England, of a great mortality in many regiments, produced by a very malignant fever, accompanied with an inflammatory affection of the lungs, which has been very prevalent in the counties of Sussex and Hants. This destructive disease has also appeared in Kent, and still rages with great violence in several garrisons there, particularly at Maidstone, Hythe, Ashford, &c. We understand that the disease is very rapid, and that its course is attended with great debility, resisting every attempt to check its progress.

On Friday last, as Mr. SIMONSON, traveller to a linen-house in the city, was riding from Nettlebed, Oxon, to Abingdon, he was stopped in the bye road, near Leeson-bridge, by a single footpad, who presented a pistol and demanded his money, Mr. SIMONSON delivered what he had, which was about 5l. and his watch, and was ordered to gallop off. Whilst turning his horse he drew a pistol from his holster and wounded the robber in the shoulder with its contents, and took him into custody. The fellow's name is *Beam*, and he was lodged in confinement. It turned out that the robber's pistol was not loaded, and it was without a flint.

Mr. CUMBERLAND has a comic opera forthcoming at Drury Lane Theatre; the music by KELLY and BRAHAM.

The lovers of dramatic merit will regret to hear, that their old favourite, Mrs. MATTOCKS, has laboured under a severe illness for upwards of two months past, and is now incapable of attending her professional duties.

It is curious, that two of our best novelists are buried in foreign lands. SMOLLETT lies in the English burying-ground at Leghorn, and FIELDING in the suburbs of Lisbon. It seems as if fate had determined that they should not die in their native Country, even in a bodily sense.

A person in the pit witnessing the new Opera, observed that the thinness of the House was owing to the war:—"I rather think," cries a wag, "that it is owing to the *piece*."

His Grace of Q. once asking a tenant how many children he had? the honest fellow answered, "I have five, thank God and your Grace."

The creditors of Lord ——— affirm that he is the most *promising* young man of the age.

## *COURT AND FASHIONABLES.*

On Wednesday, a few minutes after twelve o'clock, his MAJESTY arrived at the Queen's Palace, from Windsor, and held a private Levee, at which the following had the honour of being presented:—

The Hon. John and George Ashburnham, by their father, Viscount St. Asaph.

Mr. James Bathurst, upon his return from Sweden.

Master Wm Henry Buckley, upon his being appointed a Page of Honour to the King, in the room of Master Stanhope, promoted to an Ensigncy in the Guards.

Major-General Paget, by Lord Paget, upon his being appointed to the Command of the 80th Regiment.

Major-General Lord Forbes, upon his being appointed the Second in Command of the Forces in the Mediterranean.

Captain Buller, of the Royal Navy, upon his return from the Mediterranean.

Major-General Sir John Stuart, upon his being appointed Commander of the Forces in the Mediterranean.

His MAJESTY held a Council for receiving the Recorder of London's report of the convicts under sentence of death in Newgate; when his MAJESTY was graciously pleased to respite them all during his Royal pleasure.

The Princess AMELIA was yesterday better:—her disorder is the measles.

# THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

## No. 11.

THE TRAGEDY OF JANE SHORE.—ROWE COMPARED WITH SHAKSPEARE.—ERROR OF COPYING MERE TRADITION.—MISS SMITH IN ALICIA.—MISS NORTON IN JANE SHORE.

*COVENT-GARDEN.*

The tragedy of *Jane Shore* was performed on Monday, for the first time this season, to exhibit Miss NORTON in the heroine, and Miss SMITH in *Alicia*. This drama was written in professed imitation of the impassioned nature of SHAKSPEARE, but it is difficult to discover the resemblance in the regular flow of versification, the occasional declamation, and the general air of dramatic ornament, which distinguish the tragedies of ROWE. I have heard of a play in imitation of our great poet, in which the whole similarity consisted of one line—

"And so good morrow to you, good Master Lieutenant,"

Upon this principle ROWE seems to have imagined, that, with an English story for his plot, and with one or two familiar expressions borrowed from SHAKSPEARE, he had caught this masterly genius which relies upon no dramatic artifice whatever. If ROWE must have the honour of a comparison with SHAKSPEARE, it will be found, I think, that it was chiefly this dramatic artifice which led him to such a distance from his model. SHAKSPEARE, in general, appears to have written entirely as he felt; but only one-half of ROWE seems to have been written from feeling; the other was occupied in giving his feelings their *dramatic* dignity. SHAKSPEARE wrote for

thinkers, and Rowe for speakers. The one looked on the world, as he wrote upon men and not actors; the other could not take his eye from the stage, he could not abstract his mind from the idea of fine speeches and of the tragic step. There is in short a long distance from the two poets, and this distance is filled by the magic circle of Otway. Rowe is a polished toilet, which is never unveiled but for the reflection of some dignified fair one, studious of her attitudes and artificially easy in her attire. Otway is like a large and awful mirror, hung up in a court of justice to betray the violent passions of criminals, and to represent nature in her hours of guilt or perturbation to an anxious and breathless crowd. But Shakspeare has no limit of reflection. He is a majestic river, which receives in it's deep bosom the image of all surrounding nature, from the passing rustic to the philosopher meditating on it's bank, from the rural hut to the overshadowing city, from the blade of grass to the glorious sun and evershifting aspect of the sky.

Of the two tragedies of the *Fair Penitent* and *Jane Shore*, which are the only productions of Rowe now performed, the latter seems to me by far the more interesting. There is more impassioned dignity perhaps in the *Fair Penitent*, but it's grief has a kind of pomp which, at the conclusion, degenerates almost into theatric spectacle. The story of *Jane Shore* is of that peculiar kind which unites public and domestic history, and exhibits that very character which is the best adapted to tragedy, since it has error enough to meet with misfortune, and goodness enough to meet with our pity. It is a question however whether an author should take advantage of any story, which wants ascertainment, to blacken the memory of such a man even as Richard the Third, who, upon supposition, has been represented by Shakspeare as the murderer of Edward's children and of King Henry, and by Rowe, upon supposition also, as the destroyer of the unhappy *Jane Shore*. That this benevolent wanton did penance in St. Paul's is a very credible fact and has been well proved, but that she was turned into the streets and died in the streets because the Duke of Gloster had ordered nobody upon pain of death to give her the least assistance, is a horrible tradition which has never been proved, and which for the sake of the whole city of London as well as the Duke himself ought not to be represented to posterity as an acknowledged history. The character of *Alicia*, whose impatience of feeling rises into madness, is the most original character of the piece, and is drawn with a masterly and concise spirit. The sudden dissolution of her friendship by jealousy, and her transition from extreme love to absolute hatred of *Jane Shore*, presents a fine lesson for the friendship of the dissolute. It reminds me of a sublime fancy in an anonymous romance called the *Caliph Vathek*, which represents an abandoned but fond pair, according to the punishment prepared for them in the next world, suddenly start from each other, at the sound of a supernatural voice and in the midst of their endearments, with mutual signs of loathing and abhorrence. From that moment they bear to each other an irreconcileable hatred. This is a more appalling moral than can be furnished by almost any tragedy in the whole compass of the drama.

Miss Smith's representation of *Alicia* was in the finest style of impassioned nature. An indifferent actress to express her strongest sensations can generally use but one feature; her mouth expands into joy, and her eyes contract into rage: but the whole tone of Miss Smith's fine variable countenance answers to every cord struck in her feelings. Her look and action during her madness, when she fancies a flame swelling over her and then drowning her in blood, were full of that impatient alarm which whether it be in frenzy or in some fearful dream, may be defined as a sensation of horror preparing to struggle.

Miss Norton, in *Jane Shore*, did not give to theatrical observers much hope of her future greatness in tragedy. She will always speak gracefully, and her general air and manner will always give one an idea of her that may be called *amiable*. But her face does not exhibit that instantaneous acknowledgment of her feelings, that variety, that nice division of interrupting and casual emotions, which form the theatric character of a Siddons and a Smith. Her speeches, in short, always give one the idea of speech-making: he sorrows seem made for her audience.

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[The Editor returns his compliments to the gentlemen concerned in the following address, and assures them that so far from expecting them to write more naturally or wittily, an expectation which they will do him the justice to believe he never could entertain—his whole wish and endeavour is to see them not write at all.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,

We, the poetasters, tragical, comical, and operatical, or (if it please you better) bombastical, farcical and nonsensical, humbly entreat your forbearance for a time, till we recover from the kicks and bruises you have given us: we acknowledge that we deserve the castigation bestowed upon us, but we rather wish you to consult your own mercy than our merits.

We beg leave to observe, that if you proceed thus furiously to reform the bad taste of the times, you will positively shut the doors of the theatres against us; for if their managers did not know what a vast majority of our judges have no judgment at all, they would not let us in; and, if they did, you and your reformers would turn us out.

If you think you can make us write any better, you are mistaken; for you do not often find that cudgelling an ass will make him mend his pace. We can be very witty in dull company, but we begin to feel that our company is becoming witty at our dullness, and that our puns, claptraps and buffooneries do not pass as they have done; all which we ascribe to you and some of your persuasion.

What would you have us do? Copy Nature?—What shall we get by that?—You may as well persuade Pidcock to exhibit a flock of sheep, as put us upon the task of describing men and women as Heaven made them. 'Tis not in our way: we deal in nondescripts, and weave our hobgoblins as the Turks and Persians do their carpets, without the similitude of any living creature in earth, air, or water. But you have raised a storm about our ears, and caused us to write in trouble and in terror:—What is the consequence? Don't you see we write worse than ever we did before; and could you have supposed that possible? You have already driven us to the unpleasant extremity of disgusting our audiences, and by-and-bye you will drive them to the imperious necessity of damning us: and when you have done that, can you suppose the shilling

gallery will be amused with common sense, or the half-price prostitute enlightened by morality.

But I dare say you would undertake to reform the actors also: you might as well undertake to simplify the postures of the flugel-man. A great actor is paid for his art; would you have him renounce Art, and turn to Nature? What would that be, but to prefer service without pay before pay without service? I believe you will not persuade any flugel-man on either stage to do that. Would you have him walk and talk and deport himself as you yourself, or any private gentleman in his senses would naturally do in the like circumstances? Where then would be his art, and without his art where would be the actor? You cannot perhaps get admission into Bedlam; but if you were admitted, would you undertake to effect a reformation there? If you do either one or the other, I think I may engage you shall accomplish both.

Sir, you write very clever criticisms, and we write very bad plays; yet you have not quite effected our damnation: now, if you will only consent to turn poet, and let us turn critics, you shall find that our bad criticisms shall damn your good plays in half the time. I conceive you do not understand the business quite so well as we do: you think that *wit* and *nature*, and *originality of character*, and *consistency of plot*, are, and should be, constituent parts of the legitimate drama:—we think very differently; for in the first place, as for *wit*, we find that pun, and manual joke and broad balderdash, which is cheap as dirt, pleases our customers to the full as well, and are altogether as good substitutes for attic salt, as any, which the French shall hit upon, for Peruvian bark. Besides, when we have now and then thought ourselves witty, we never found our audience of the same opinion; but when we have been what we call funny, overturning chairs and tables, or breaking crockery and candles, we have never failed to succeed: we have therefore resolved to lay *wit* upon the shelf for evermore, and that is a place, in which our works are never seen, nor ever will be.

Secondly, As for *nature*, how you came to think of such a thing we cannot understand. No body will pay for seeing that upon the stage, which they can see for nothing in the streets. If a pig has but four legs, he is a pig natural; but if he has five (as one of our corps has well observed) he is an object of curiosity, and worth the pains of a great actor to represent. *Nature* is stale, she is trite, she is worn out, moreover we don't deal in nudities: we blush for you when you name her.

Thirdly, *Originality of character*—We have it in perfection; for we draw such characters as never existed but in our representations; and what are they but *originals*? We need not quote instances; we will not trouble Mr. Lewis to make oath to that; we rest our case upon the appeal *ad verecundiam*, and know you can't dispute it.

Fourthly, and lastly, You would have us attend to the *consistency of plot*: we are sorry to disoblige you, but we must decline your advice. Our experience convinces us that *plots* which no body can understand are infinitely preferable to such as every body can find out; you will therefore see the good sense of our keeping the bag close, when we have nothing better than a cat to let out of it. In short we find the sweets of being unintelligible, and so long as you do not raise a spirit of inquiry upon us, we flatter ourselves we shall remain upon good terms with our audiences; and so tenacious are we of the advantages we derive from our obscurity, that it is not often we let even the actors know what they are about, satisfied as we are that the poet's doctrine is right, who well observes—

*That true no-meaning puzzles more than wit.*

Having now entered into fair and candid explanation with you, we hope you will let us go on in our own way, and acknowledge that our plays, operas, and farces, bad as we confess they are, nevertheless are quite good enough for those who go to them.

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Thespis. * * * * * * * *

# *FINE ARTS.*

## BRITISH INSTITUTION.

Now mighty patrons the coy sisters call
Up to the sun-shine of uncumber'd ease,
Where no rude care the mounting thought may thrall,
And where they nothing have to do but please.
Ah! Gracious God! Thou know'st they ask no other fees.

Thomson.

14. *The Judgment of Solomon*, Wm. Hilton, is destined for Mr. Hope's collection. Its lively colouring, and vigorous drawing and expression of passion, throw into the back ground more than one R. A. The Patrons of this valuable Institution must be much gratified with the industry and improvement of this and other young artists under their auspices.

The warm colouring and pastoral simplicity of Mr. Calcott's *Cow-boys*, No. 260, entitle him to the generous patronage of Sir John Leicester, the purchaser of the picture.

Capt. Agar has purchased no less than fourteen pictures in this Exhibition. He will possess Mr. Shee's *Pattie*, No. 321.—The gracefulness and delicate proportion of her head, limbs, and form, exquisite clearness of her skin, her innocence and sensibility, satisfy the judgment and captivate the heart of the critic. But the elegant and animated author of the "Rhimes on Art," will pardon us for complaining of too nice a finish of every inferior part into a kind of glassy sharpness and transparency. His picture looks as if frozen when wet, and *Pattie* is positively seated on a lump of sugar candy.

### *ANALYSIS OF THE SECOND NUMBER OF THE BRITISH GALLERY OF ENGRAVINGS.*

In the verbal part of this work Mr. Foster displays as much ignorance of authorship as of the art on which he treats. The description of its subjects are without interest and information.

1. *A Flemish Cottage*, from Ostade, engraved by Fittler. We find in this engraving much to admire. The light is successfully subdued without losing its brilliancy. The half tints are deep and clear. The character of the different objects, and texture of the dresses, are judiciously discriminated. Even the littleness of manner which we objected to in *The Storm*, is here appropriate, accords with the style of the painting, and adds to the effect. If any part of this print be objectionable, it is the left side, where it is rather wanting in harmony, and where a wiry marking in the foliage is a little harsh; but it is nevertheless a beautiful engraving, and highly creditable to Mr. Fittler's talents.

2. *The Head of Salvator*, by Neagle, we will pass by in silence, or we should throw away criticism.

3. Of the *Samuel and Eli*, the less that is said the better; but the

4. *Murrillio* is worthy of criticism, and demands our most serious notice. Mr. Heath's reputation is deservedly great. His exquisite productions, when he worked in conjunction with and under the eye of Stothard, are in the port-folios of every collector of taste. The Novelists Magazine is a monument, raised by his

own hand, which few British or foreign engravers have equalled; but in his latter productions, fascinated by the beauty of a *clearly cut line*, he has made it the principal object of his study, and all the other excellencies of the art have been neglected for its attainment. These observations are suggested by this print, which is shewy and replete with mechanical excellence, but deficient in the higher excellencies of art. We ask Mr. Heath, what it is that delights us in the works of Audran, Frey, and Bartolozzi, while we view with comparative indifference the laboured productions of Bervic?—We wish that he would consider this.—We lament to see great talents wasted on inferior objects.

In these and other observations that may occur hereafter, let us not be charged with personality. The improvement of the public taste in art is our object, but this is not to be attained by accommodating criticism to the feelings and vanity of individuals.

## *MARQUIS WELLESLEY:*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir—Being sensible of the impartiality and candour of the paper which you conduct, I trust your will permit me to offer to your readers a very few points for their consideration, in opposition to the doctrine laid down in the letter, in your last paper, respecting the Marquis Wellesley.

Your Correspondent doubts whether his Lordship is qualified to be a minister of state of this nation, from his conduct in India, as to the regulations he made concerning the press. This argument might be thought of some weight, if the political situations of the two countries were similar; and that therefore the same line of policy should be pursued in the one as in the other. But the Government of India differs most essentially from that of England. From the free nature of our Constitution necessarily proceeds the liberty of the press, in a very high degree, which could never exist with safety in India, where the Government approaches very near to an absolute military despotism. If the discontented and seditious were there suffered to inflame the minds of the people, by the means so well known and practised in this country, incalculable mischiefs would follow. Disaffection every where would reign; rebellion would in all parts be stirred up; all would tend to encourage the Native Princes to war against the Government; and the empire of a few British soldiers over fifty millions of men would totter to its very foundation. The press in India has always been under great restrictions; and the edict of Lord Wellesley was not any further restraint on it, but was merely to make known, and to settle by positive law, what before had never been clearly defined. Thus then his Lordship rather increased than lessened the liberty of the subject.

Your Correspondent says, "it is a matter of little moment whether the English Government be in the hands of this or that set of men, provided they possess both talents and integrity." I would go one step further, and insist on the necessity of such political principles in a statesman, that will assure us that his talents and integrity will be rightly directed. That the Marquis has the brightest talents, and the most pure integrity, surely no man of common sense and observation can doubt. That the first grand principle, of the love of his country, is near his heart, his conduct in India against its direst foe fully evinces. Should it not then be the wish of every loyal Englishman that the Lord Wellesley should hold a distinguished situation in the councils of his Majesty, that he might again be enabled to exert his abilities, his integrity, and his principles, against the same enemy who felt his power in the East. I am, Sir, &c.

*Lincoln's-Inn, 1st March*, 1808. C. M.

## *THE REV. DR. BELL.*

Upon the establishment of the Male Asylum at Madras in 1789, this Gentleman undertook the management of it; and under considerable disadvantages attempted the new and extraordinary measure of making the children the instructors and managers of each other. With this view he selected some of the more promising boys as teachers of each class, choosing out of them the most intelligent boy for the direction of the school. Their rapid progress, and their good order and discipline, soon evinced the excellence of the system. In 1797, he returned to England, and soon after published the Analysis of his Experiment on Education. The perusal of this interesting Work has produced many imitators in this country. Dr. Bell himself has also produced models of his new system in several instances; in two schools at Whitechapel, in one at Lambeth, under the Archbishop's patronage, and in other situations, acting with great liberality; and not only giving gratuitous assistance, but in some instances contributing to the funds of the school.

His great establishment is at the Military Asylum at Chelsea, where are three schools for 1000 children of soldiers. Two of these contain 700 boys. In the order, decency, moral discipline, and religious instruction of these boys, may be seen, as in a mirror, the excellence of Dr. Bell's method. A Correspondent has favoured us with some account of a visit he made them a few days ago. "I found," (says he) "three classes of twenty-two boys each examined as to their lessons by their respective teachers.—The classes are called out in their turns; and each lesson does not occupy more than fifteen minutes, so that the weariness of long and tedious instruction is avoided. No rod, no ferule, nor any corporal punishment is allowed in the school. The rewards are the rising in their class, or to a superior class; the punishment degradation to a lower place: both are immediate. The master of these 700 scholars is a *boy of eleven years of age*. Every thing depends on him. There are serjeants attending in each school, but they do not interfere. The upper classes were examined by the master, or one of his teachers, (boys whose ages were from eight to twelve years), in an account and explanation of Our Saviour's parables and miracles. They gave such proof of their religious improvement, that a learned Prelate who was present, could not help expressing a wish, that this mode of instruction were extended to all other places of education in the kingdom."

## COURT OF CHANCERY.

*Monday, March 5.*

*BEFORE SIR W. GRANT, MASTER OF THE ROLLS.*

VISCOUNT MAHON, *v.* HIS FATHER, EARL STANHOPE.

This was a Bill filed by Viscount Mahon against his father, Lord Stanhope, to prevent dilapidations and waste on those estates to which his Lordship was tenant in tail. It appeared, by a deed of settlement made on the marriage of the Noble Earl, in 1774, with Lady Hester Pitt, and renewed on the Earl's second marriage, in 1781, that the estates in Kent, Bucks, Devon, and Derby, were to be enjoyed by his Lordship during life, without impeachment of waste, and that he was not empowered to sell or dispose of the same, without consent of trustees then named and appointed, their heirs, executors, &c.

Messrs. RICHARDS, ROMILLY, and others, were heard for the Viscount, and Messrs. MARTIN and SCOTT for the noble defendant. The latter contended that no evidence could be produced to shew that the Noble Lord had acted improperly in the management of his estates; on the contrary, he had expended large sums of money on their improvement.

On Tuesday evening Lord Stanhope was heard for two hours and a half in his own defence. His Lordship said, he had very particular reasons for being heard, and hoped he should be indulged. His Lordship then entered upon a very elaborate review of the suit moved against him by his son. He began by saying that his life had been four times attempted, and once by poison. His son, however, was too young to be a party in such conspiracy, but if he had not attacked his life, he had attacked his character. His Lordship said, that three years before his son came of age, he required from him an allowance of 500*l.* a year, and choosing as a parent to refuse that supply, his son left him and went abroad, and did not return till he came of age, when he filed the Bill in question; which he would insist was injurious, vexatious, and false, and he expected at the hands of the Court a remedy and redress for the calumnies promulgated by the allegations. In short, he trusted his Honour would put his seal of reprobation upon the suit, if not for himself, to save other fathers from the oppression of their sons. With respect to his enemies, he should repeat that very excellent prayer to his Creator, "to abate their malice, assuage their wrath, and confound their devices." His Lordship combated the arguments of Counsel in support of the Bill, and insisted upon their being wholly irrelevant and inapplicable, and that so far from having deteriorated the estates, he had improved them, by spending 30,000*l.* of his own money. His Lordship dwelt upon the allegations in the Bill, and said, if his son had acted right, he could have left him 20,000*l.* a year by the estates, more than he will now have. But by filing the present Bill he had not only lost his esteem, but the personal property he should leave, not a shilling of which he would now have. But he would gain a practical lesson of morality, and learn henceforward the truth of that immutable maxim, "that honesty is the best policy." His Lordship concluded by saying, that it would remain for his Honour's judgment to prove, whether the Court of Chancery was what it constitutionally was intended to be, namely, a Court to distribute justice according to equitable rights; or whether it was to be perverted into an office for filing libels, and placing calumnies against honourable characters upon record, and for giving facility to the circulation of those calumnies throughout the land.

The MASTER of the ROLLS said, he would consider of what had been urged, and give his judgment.

Accordingly, on Wednesday night, his Honour stated, that he did not think that Lord Stanhope had committed waste in cutting down the ornamental trees; but if the parties choose, the matter might be referred to the Master. The Court could not allow his Lordship to sell the Derbyshire estate, until it was convinced that it was in furtherance of the trust. The 21,304*l.* out on mortgage might be called in, and vested in real estates; but this also must be referred to the Master. As Mr. Dashwood is not in a situation to act as Trustee, Lord Stanhope had nominated Lords Thanet and Cowper; but the Court not being in the practice of appointing Trustees in the first instance, this must likewise be referred to the Master.

## *ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.*

Wednesday morning, about six o'clock, as Mr. King, jun. poulterer, of St. James's-street, was passing the post, at the end of Orange-court, Leicester-fields, he was attacked by a man, who with a pistol pointed to his breast, demanded his money. In a moment three other fellows came up and assisted in the robbery, when they turned his pockets inside out, and took from him upwards of 4*l.* and even his apron. One of them then observed, that he must have a *topper for luck*; but on his begging them not to ill treat him he was suffered to depart.—They were habited as bricklayers labourers.

A few evenings since, between six and seven o'clock, a poor woman was stopped in the carriage road, Hyde Park, leading from Chesterfield-gate, by a soldier, who drew a knife upon her, and robbed her of a few shillings, and made his escape.

A few mornings since, the house of Sir Martin Faulkes, in Cavendish-square, was broken open, and robbed of considerable property, besides eight pheasants and six partridges.

## MARRIAGES.

Lately, at Bradford, aged 74, Mr. John Warman, to Miss Jane Self, aged 18.

Arthur Clarke, Esq. of Great George's-street, Rutland-square, Dublin, to Miss Oliva Owenson.

## DIED.

On Monday, suddenly, Sir Giles Rooke, Knight, one of the Justices of his Majesty's Court of Common Pleas.

On Monday morning, at his house, in Park-lane, George Damer, Earl of Dorchester, Viscount and Baron Milton, of Milton Abbey, in Dorsetshire, also Baron Milton of Shrone Hill, in Ireland, Lord Lieutenant of Dorsetshire. His Lordship was never married. He is succeeded in his titles and estates by his only brother, the Hon. Lionel Damer, now Earl of Dorchester.

At Gosmore, Hertfordshire, the Rev. T. Dove, Rector of Holcocle, Bedfordshire.

At Shepperton, Mrs. Anne Horsley, sister to the late Bishop of St. Asaph.

Lately, at Lisle, at the advanced age of 84, Madame Fesch, aunt of Cardinal Fesch.

In Catherine-place, Bath, the Marchioness of Longchamp, widow of the Marquis of Longchamp, an illegitimate son of Louis XV. King of France.

On Monday, at his house, in Harley-street, Cavendish-square, in the 82d year of his age, Thomas Edwards Freeman, Esq. of Buttesford.

On Thursday last, at Kittery-court, near Dartmouth, aged 78, the Rev. Thomas Fownes, B. D. fifty-three years the exemplary and conscientious Vicar of Brixham, Devon.

At Greenock, on the 11th ult. Mr. John M'Kellar, merchant, and on the 22d ult. Mrs. Margaret M'Kellar, his spouse.

On Thursday, about half past two o'clock, Mr. Lowe, of Covent Garden, distiller and wine merchant, dropped down in the Bar of the New York Coffee-house, and immediately expired.

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